

✓1828

✓n.

258 Market

copy righted $\frac{1}{4}$ No

Published March 21st 1826

W. H. Lathrop

den 21. de dek. 1869

1869

810.

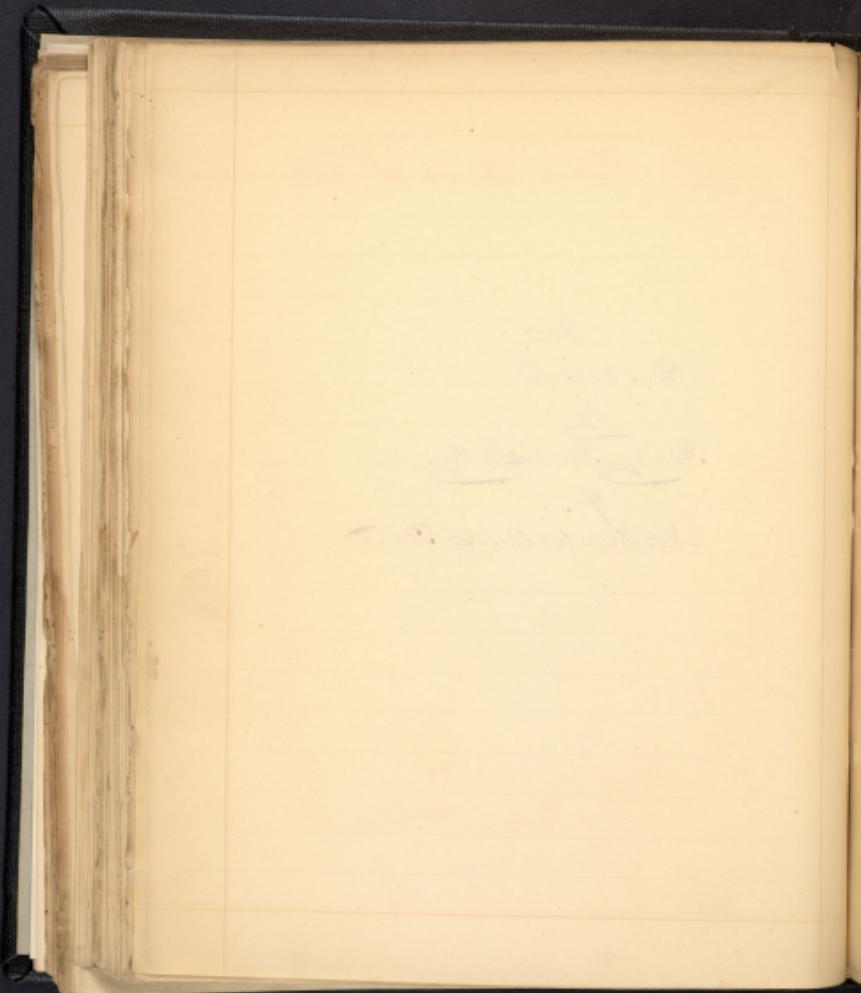
Approved

by

George Bent Lathe.

4.

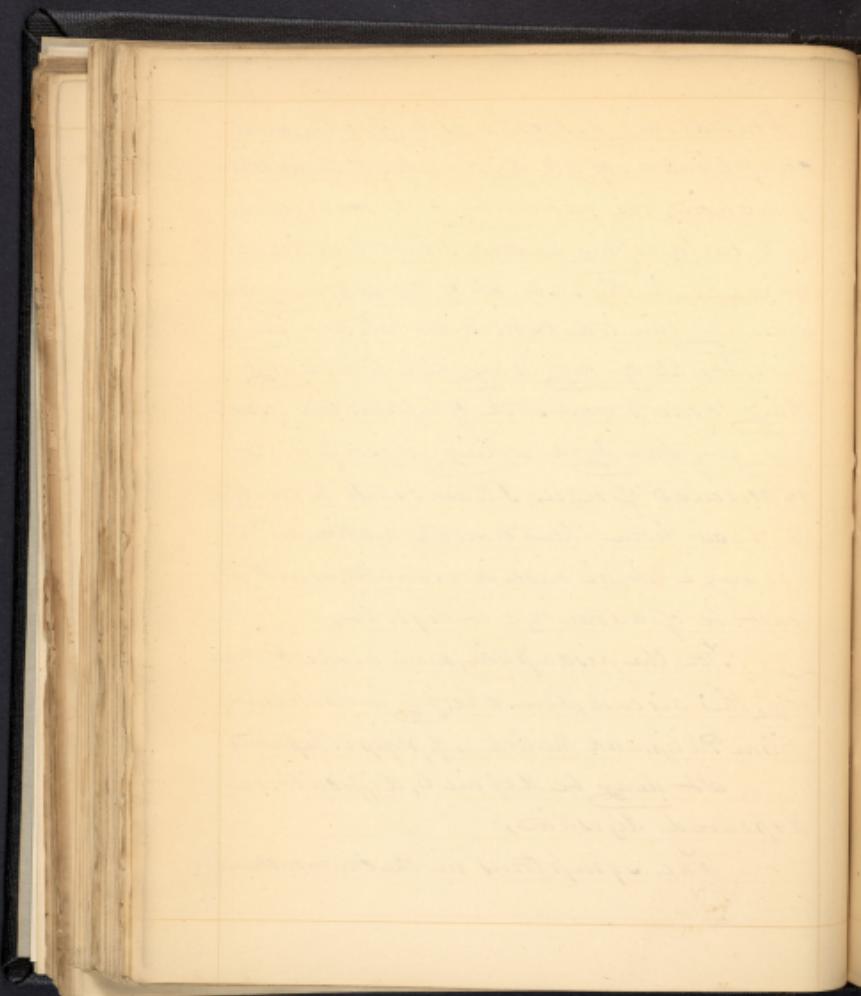
Northumberland Friend



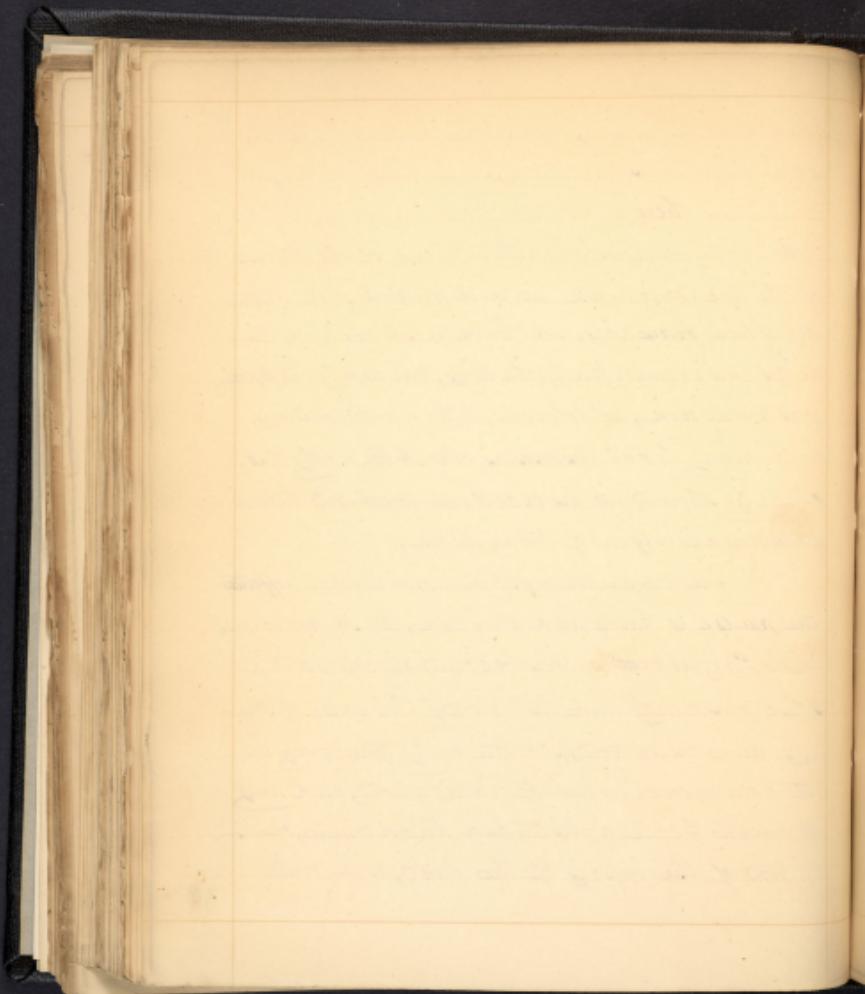
Considering dyspepsia as by far the most complicated, of all the disorders of the digestive function, the frequency of its occurrence, and tantalizing nature, I have been induced to make it the subject of the following remarks, now limited by time will not justify the thoughts of my being able to add any thing to our present stock of information respecting it, but by availing myself of the experience of others, I trust I shall be enabled to draw from thence such matter, and to arrange it, in such a manner, as will at least be of advantage to myself.

For the description, and mode of treating this disease, I am chiefly indebted to Wilson Phillips and the lectures of professor Chapman. It may be defined, difficult, or depraved digestion.

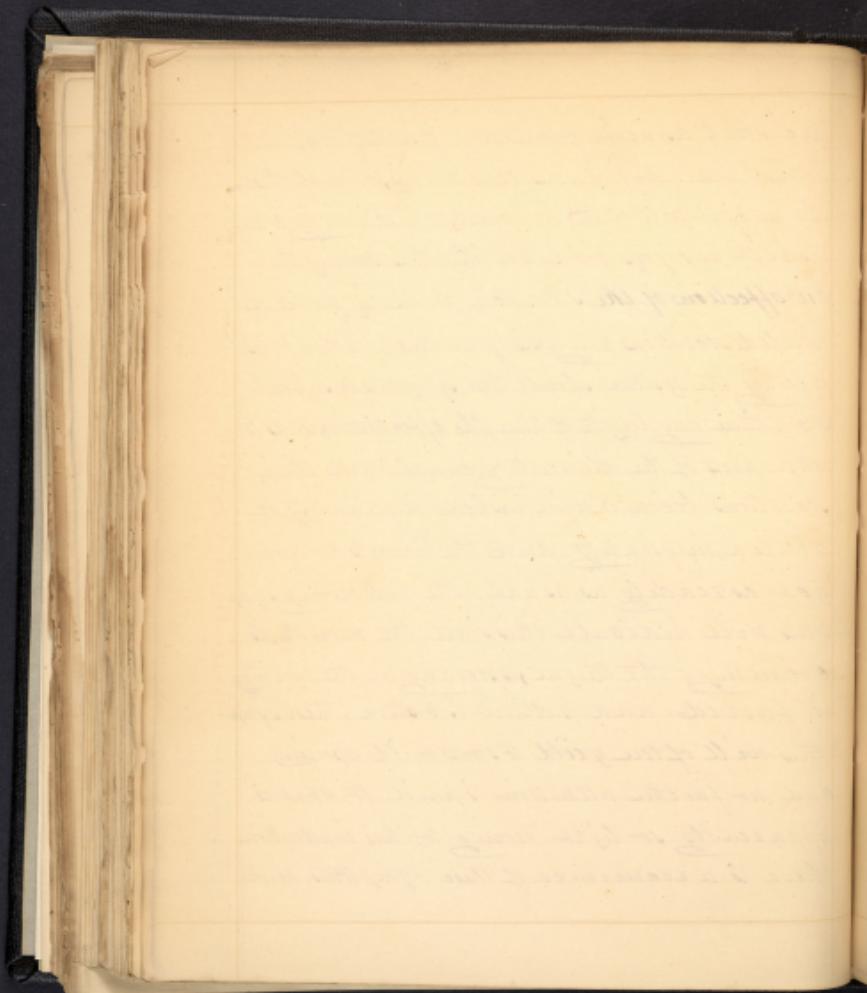
The symptoms in the commencement



are such as arise from indigested food, &c.,
from flatulent, bilious eruptions, &c. of these,
the patient will often complain, which is a strong
espect he enjoys good health, thus proving that
an affection of the stomach producing flat or
bilious secretions may exist for a time, without dis-
tressing the system. Should these symptoms be suffered
to continue any length of time, the affection extends to
other parts of the alimentary canal, and their
secretions become diminished in quantity, or
altered, in quality, and the bowels do not
act as readily as usual. The following symp-
toms will indicate this state, the mouth, is
clammy, the tongue, especially in the morning
is furred, and patient is irritable, these symp-
toms will often yield to some mild aperient
and no further attention is paid to what is
apparently so light, owing to this inattention
there is a recurrence of these symptoms, and

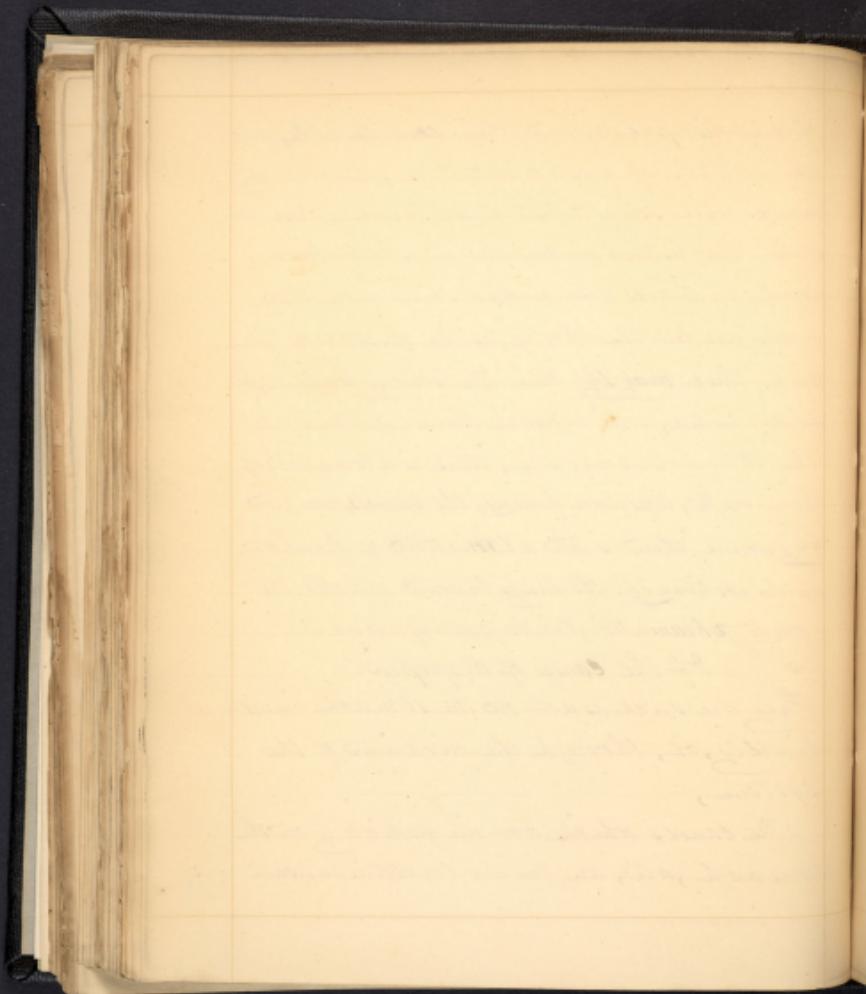


debility, at first only occasional, & complained of. in this the mind participates, the patient becomes incapable of his usual mental efforts, his sleep is irregular and disturbed, though occasionally he enjoys good nights, at all times he feels a degree of drowsiness, and he now becomes alarmed very irritably and excited, The urine discharge begins to deviate from their healthy appearance, owing probably to diminished or vitiated secretion of bile, being usually a light or dark, the change of colour is ascribed by many to circumstances of diet, and changes which the contents of the bowels undergo in their passage through the canal. The wind enables the mind to detect it. The symptoms the consequence of sympathy existing between the stomach and other parts, now begin to show themselves, as pain in the breast, pain in the side, sometimes mistaken for pleuritis.



hurt to the head, the vision becomes affected,
sometimes it is inverted, sometimes double, and
sometimes there is permanent blindness, this has
led to the supposition, that many of the diseases
of the eye, originate in a depraved state of the
digestive function, we have also seen in the
nerves an眩晕, palpitation, cardiac dyspnoea,
gastrodynia, the dolorem, tetanus, convulsions,
and many local diseases, as Mr Abeneth has
clearly shewn in his excellent tract on the con-
stitutional origin of local diseases,

The vascular system now becomes affected
the pulse is hard and checked, the hypochondria
and epigastrium become affected with a
sense of smarting, and distension of the sense of smart-
ing and distension, is of the only symptom in
the commencement of indigestion, and may
proceed from a disturbed circulation, either
in two of the vessels of the liver, and will

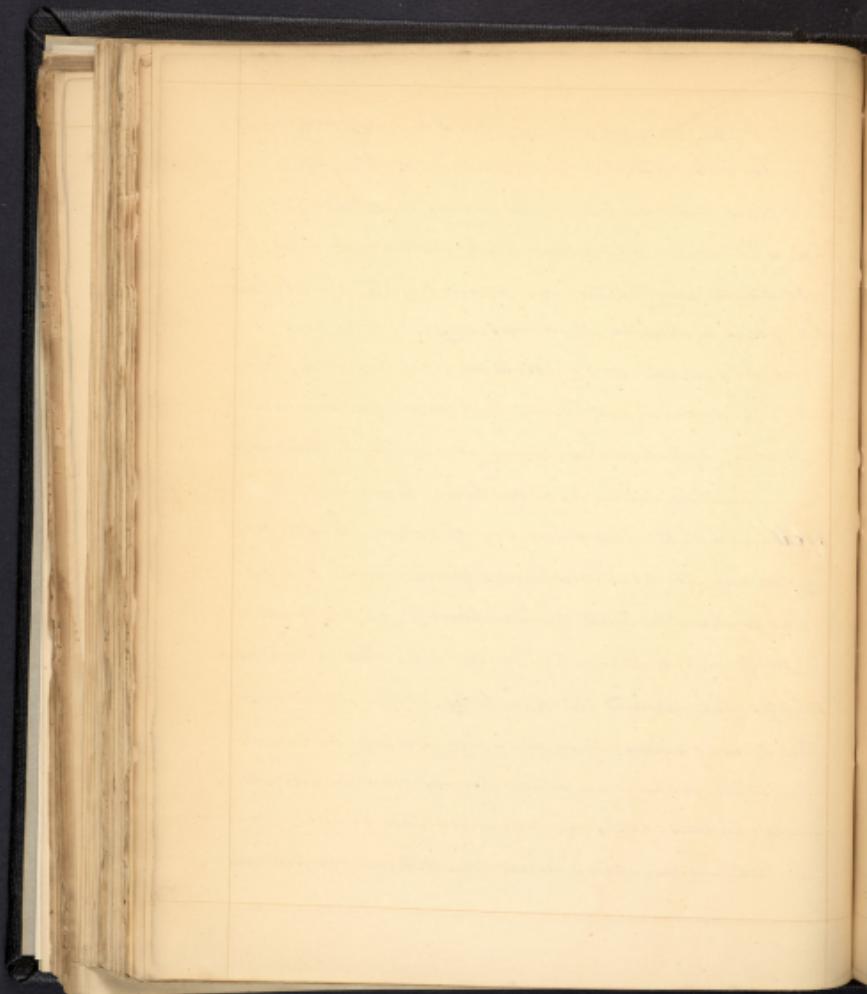


of the diaphragm, even when considerable, after
the operation of a bark cathartic, the following
marks will serve to distinguish between these two
states. the distended diaphragm is felt to rise
down, and does not proceed so immediately
from under the thorax, as the distended liver,
and these, may be thin temporary nature, be
(arising either from organic disease, or the liver)
the throat becomes sore, there is a swelling of
the mouth, lips, and faucey, the bowels are said
may, and there is an alternation of diarrhoea
and constipation. the lungs become affected, the
joints rheumatic, limbs paralysed &c.

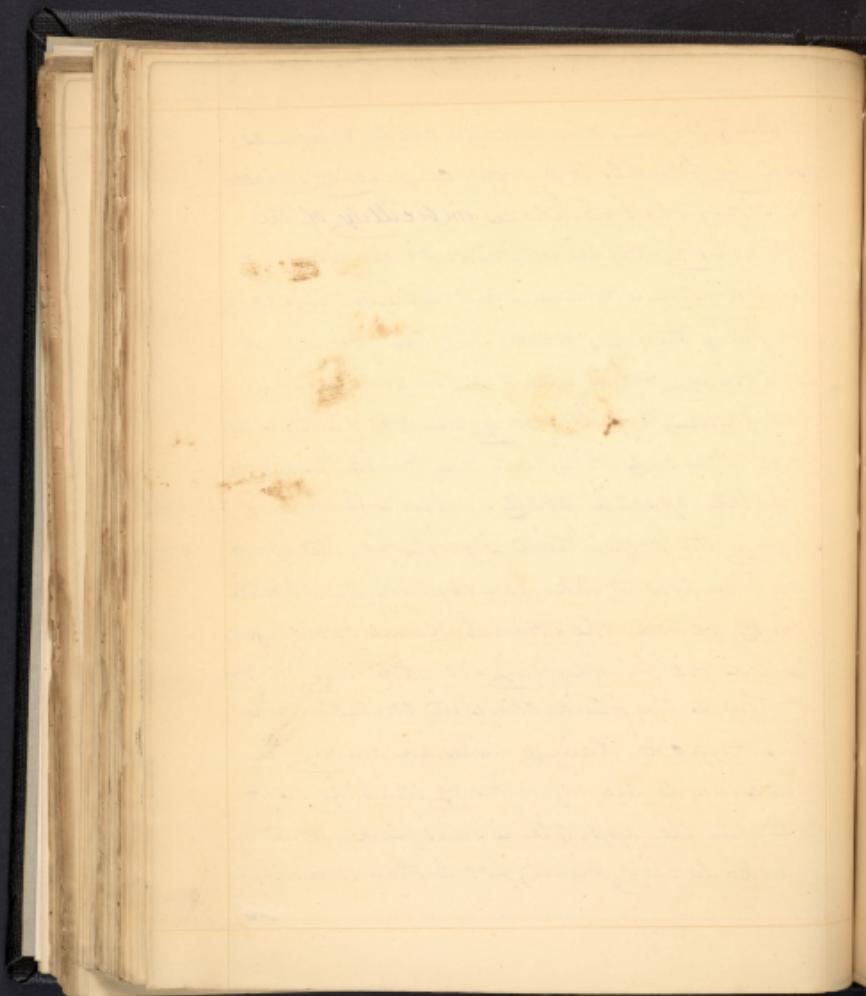
Of the causes of dyspepsia.

They are such as act on the stomach imme-
diately, or, through the medium of the
system,

The causes which act immediately on the
stomach, and, in moderate indulgence



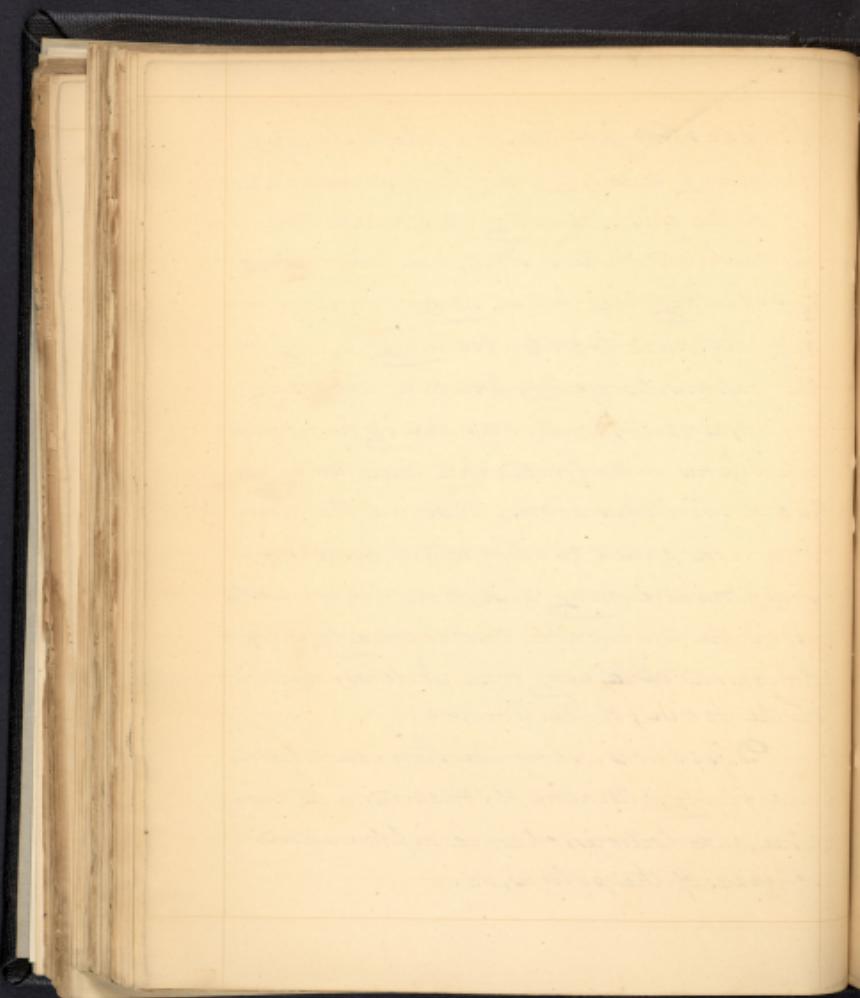
in tea, coffee, mineral water, acety. vinegar as
used by females to prevent corpulency, tobacco
in short, whatever induces imbecility of the
stomach, by overdistention or otherwise, any of
the most common causes of overdistention, eating
too freely thereby preventing the food from
coming into the gastric juice, as it is
well known, that it is only in proportion as the
food comes into, and neutralizes this fluid
that the appetite abates. whence if we eat
now by the proper time is given for the above
combination to take place, and the appetite
abates before the stomach, because overcharging
the gastric fluid, being converted into an
excretion as the fluid comes in contact with
the stomach. dainty dishes, are among the
causes, and so are injurious by tempting us to
eat after the appetite is satisfied, and
leaving dross, for so that swells after



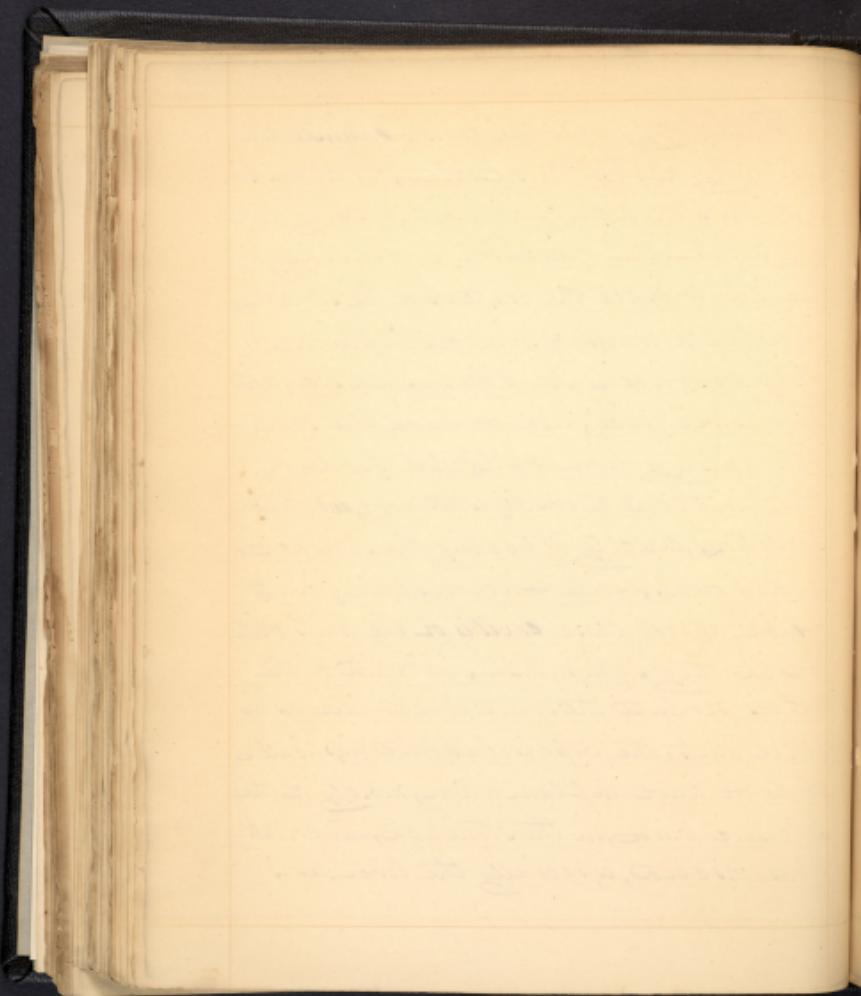
its reception into the stomach, are among the many causes, that might be, enumerated.

If the causes, affecting the stomach through the medium of the system, are, and indeed or sedentary life, intense study, careless for time, or haste to eat, becoming a habit of a leaping breakfast, or griff, one, deep anxiety in numbers of indulgences, late hours, and excessive use of spirituous liquors, these are the most common causes of either partial or general dyspepsia, symptomatic, may arise, from decayed tattoo, or, in the comparative case related by Professor Chapman of a lady from hysteria, affection of the brain, or the liver, &c.

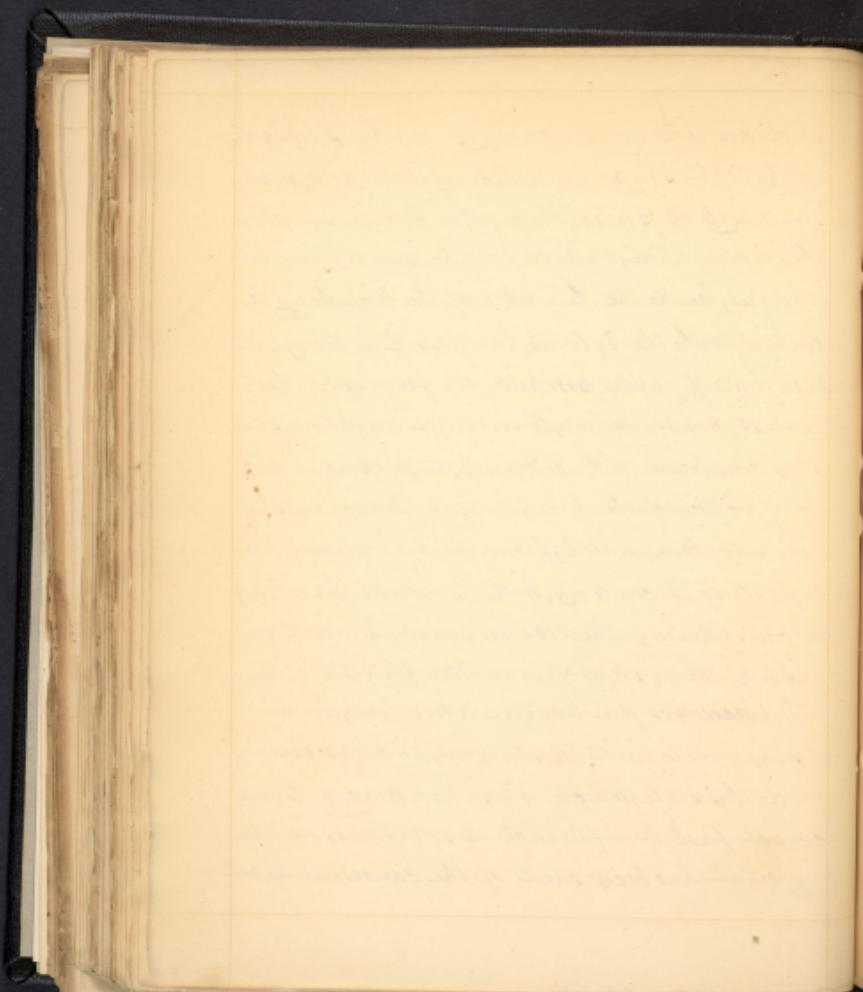
Disections. Show the stomach relaxed, and flabby, alteration of muscles, in its nerves, blue, red follicles, chronic inflammations, chimis of the pylorus, etc.



Pathology. All the causes enumerated
will directly affect the muscles, or, nervous supply
of the stomach, or bowels, inducing debi-
lity, hence the muscular power, is unsuf-
ficient to expel the contents of the stomach,
and so to the want of nervous influence,
may be traced the diminished secretion
of gastric juice, and we have the symp-
athetic arising from undigested food, or
the irritation of undigested food, and titillate
secretions, directly affecting the stomach,
and bowels, with ~~the~~ nervous arrangement
which affect these cavities, or the parts with
which they sympathize, irritation of the
nerves produce the same effect here as in
other parts, the vessels, become engorged
and we have inflammation, mostly of the
chronic kind, in the stomach, and colitis
has increased, especially the liver, as is



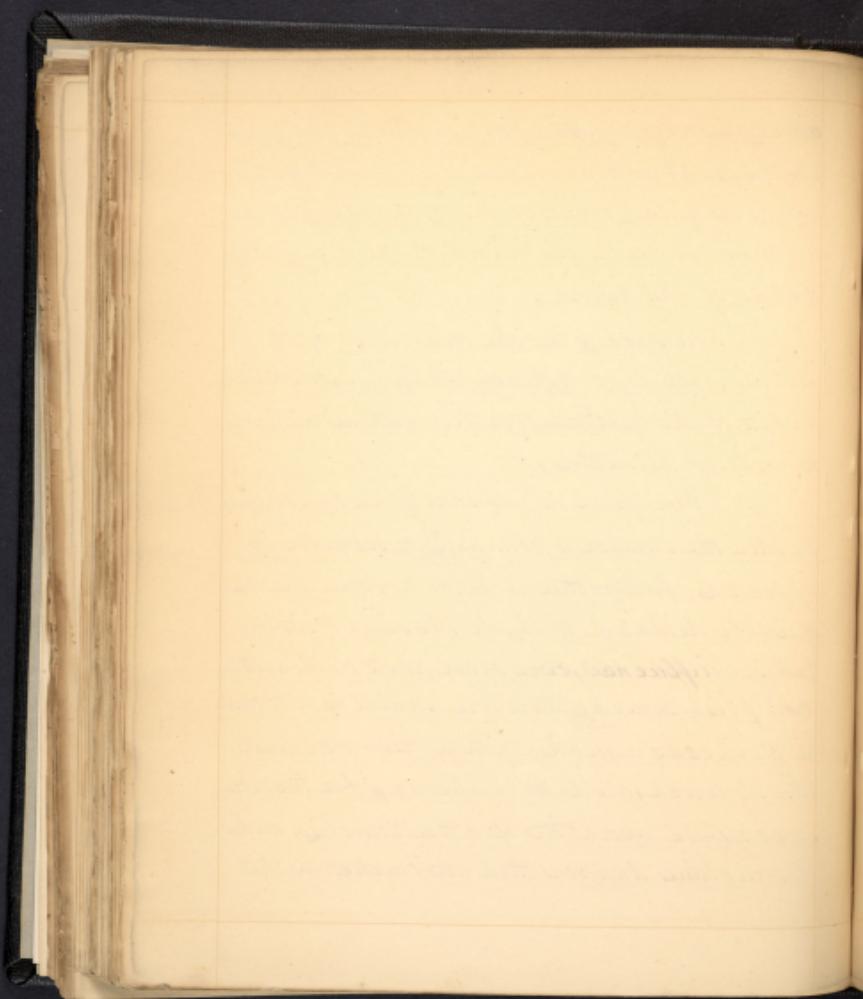
indicated by tenderness of the Epigastrium
and right Hypochondriac regions up to, perhaps
half way of pulse, and other febrile symptoms
this inflammation, will be found usually in the
pylorus, and the thin edge of the liver, being in
contact with the pylorus, partakes of it through the
medium of juxtaposition, the fulness of the
right Hypochondrium, however, does not, always im-
mediately concur with tenderness of pulse, indicate
an affection of the liver, it may proceed, also
already been stated, from the duration not
expelling it entirely, with its usual facility
in considering the reciprocal influence of the
part of the system over another, the state of the
mind, deserves particular attention, in this
disease it is irritable, anxious, and apprehensive,
and this state, which is ranked among its causes
cannot fail to influence its symptoms, no review
ing what has been said of the causes, and, par-



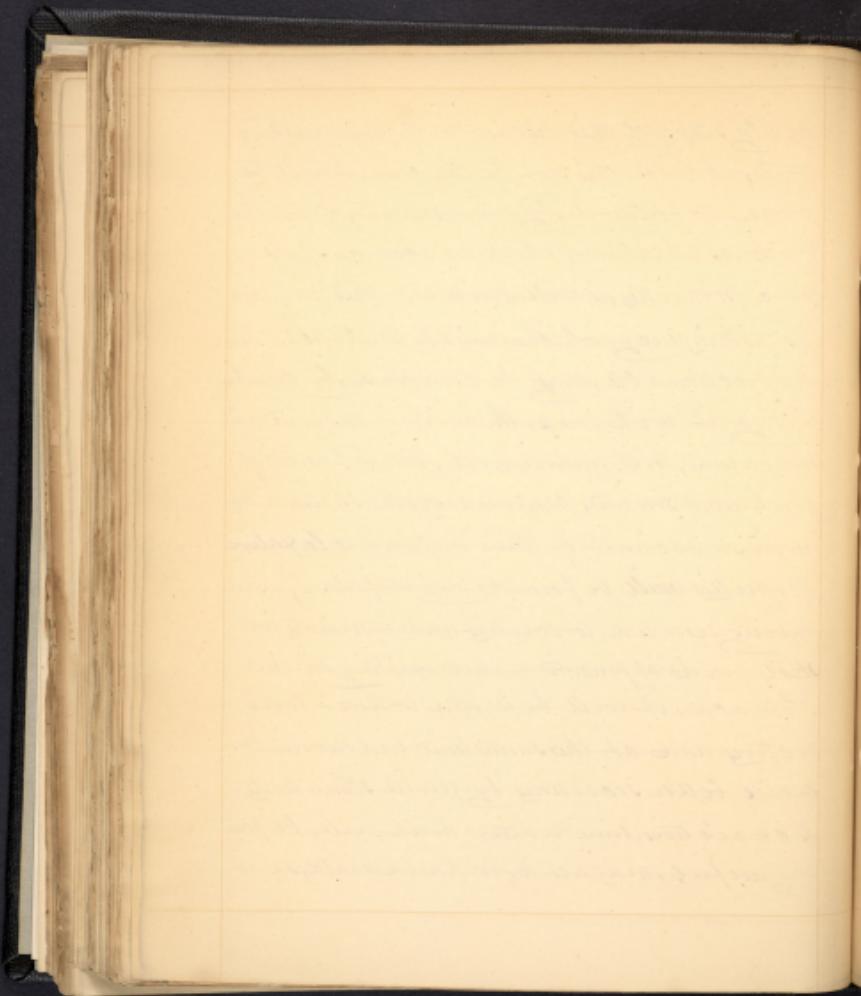
clearly recollecting that parts sympathetically affected, will actual disease is established nothing
but, as secondary causes of the primary affection
we must be fully convinced of the complicated
nature of this disease,

Our success in the treatment of this
disease, will depend much on the age, constituting
habits, of the patient, together with his willingness
to undergo privation,

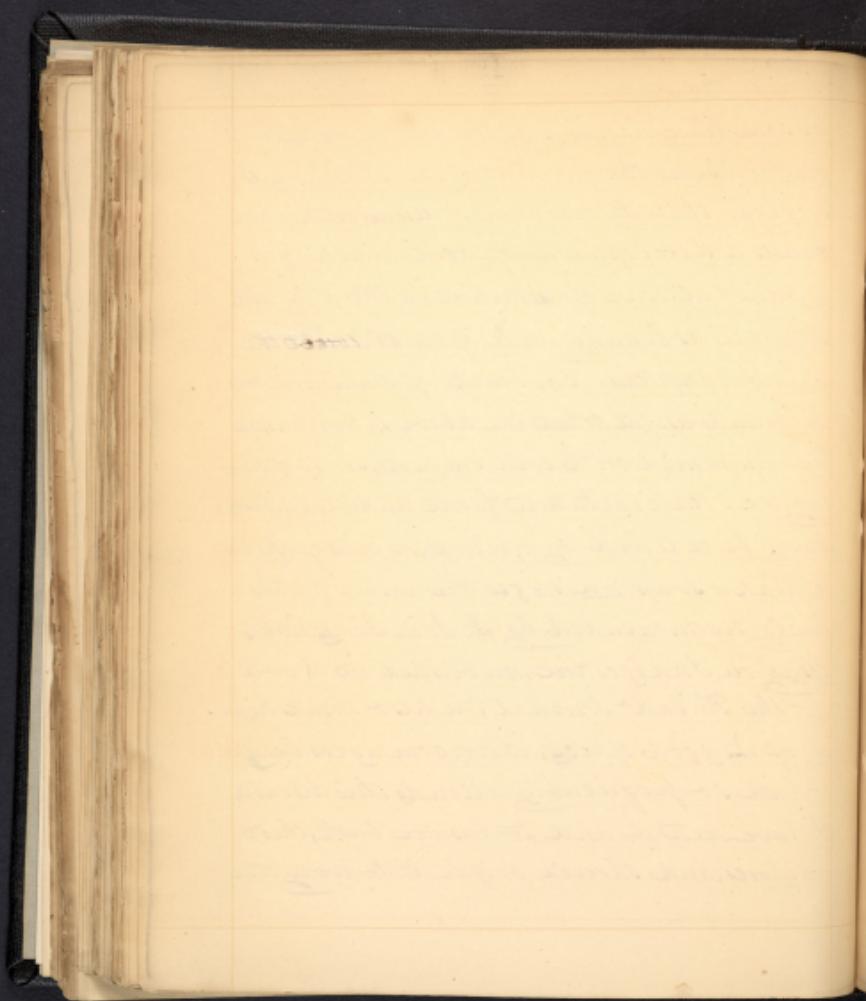
Our first object should be to ascertain
whether the stomach is primarily or secondarily
affected, but whether it be, or not our remedy
must be directed to it, on account of its im-
mense influence over other parts of the system,
our first remedy therefore, should be, to induce
it to evacuate with a view to release
the stomach, and pave the way for the more
successful operation of other remedies, and
it sometimes happens that an emetic in the



early stage of this disease will put an end to
it, should this not be the case, it will be
proper to follow it, by an aperient, of a mild
kind, as 2 heubarb, which on account of its
tame properties, is well suited to this purpose.
its astringency, which might perhaps render
it obnoxious, may be removed by com-
bining it with soap, the milk of sulphur, and
magnesia, will answer well, and in fusions of
gentian, I should, prepared oyster shells, & mag-
nesia, on account of their astringent & laxative
properties will be found very useful. If after
having resorted to astringent and aperients we
still find offensious matter existing in the
stomach, it will be proper to resort to en-
recting and at the same time endearous to
excite better secretion by gentle stimulants
as enemetics, lime water, & milk, will be found
very useful, magnesia, prepared chalk, &c. &c.



as sometimes happens in the commencement
of this disease the inertia of the stomach is
so great that the reception of undigested food
causes a development of acid, nitrous gas.
a painful sense of distension &c. the diffusive
stimuli as usually will of an alleviate the
ascetic symptoms. carbonate of ammonia will
be found useful when the above symptoms are
accompanied with cold surface, sense of sink-
ing &c. the irritation produced by cold food
may be relieved by opium, or pills of green
unripe soap as 125 this last is particu-
larly recommended by Dr John Quincy in his
Essay on Indigestion, published in 1800
in the Philad Journal, he also speaks high-
ly of its good effect, in removing constancy
which so frequently attends this disease
I have seen it used to answer both these
purposes, and should prefer it to very the



remedy, the pills are to be taken at night—
or going to bed, or after a hearty meal.

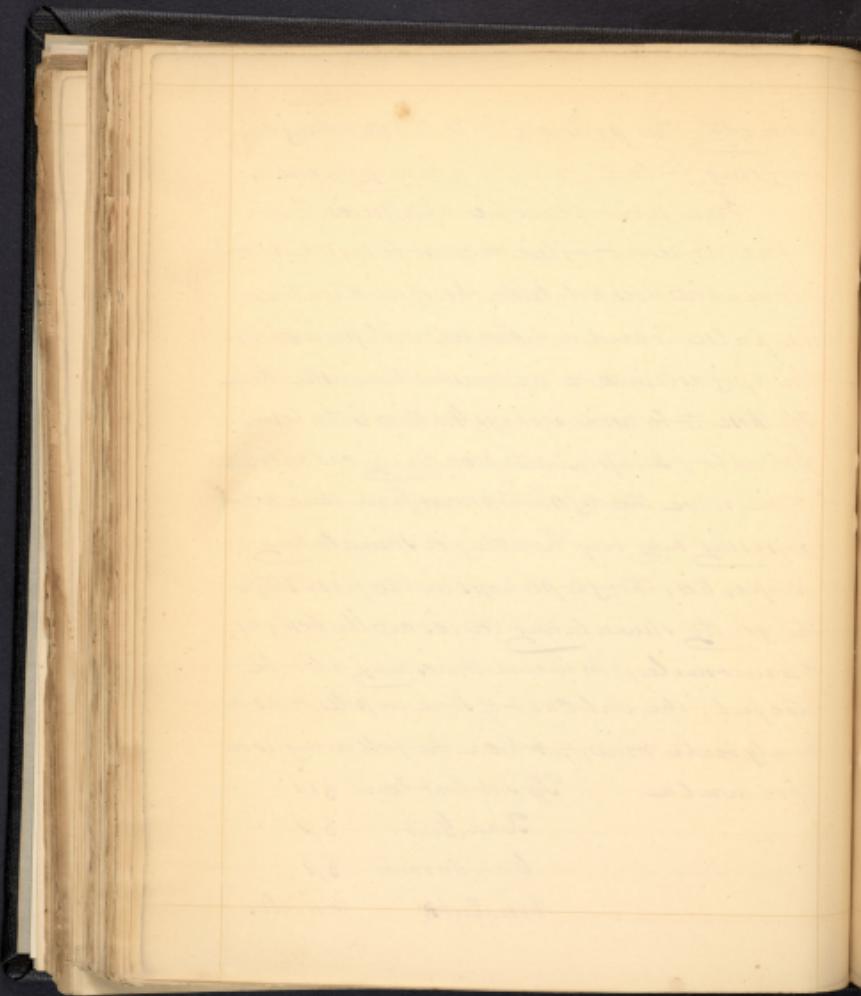
Our next remedies are tonics, but
before we resort to these we must be sure that in-
flammation does not exist, therefore whenever
the pulse is hard and throbbed with pain about
the epigastrium we must administer them
of these to be used, perhaps Gentian is the best,
Columbo & Guapira and peculiarly calculated
to improve the digestive power, from this not
possessing any very heating or stimulating
properties, though perhaps in the first stage
the gently stimulating tonics are the best, as
Chamomile, Mineral tonics may also be
useful, the Sub-Cast of Iron in pills, or as a
chalybeate wine, of which the following is a
formula

3*g* Sut-Cast-Iron. 3*lb*

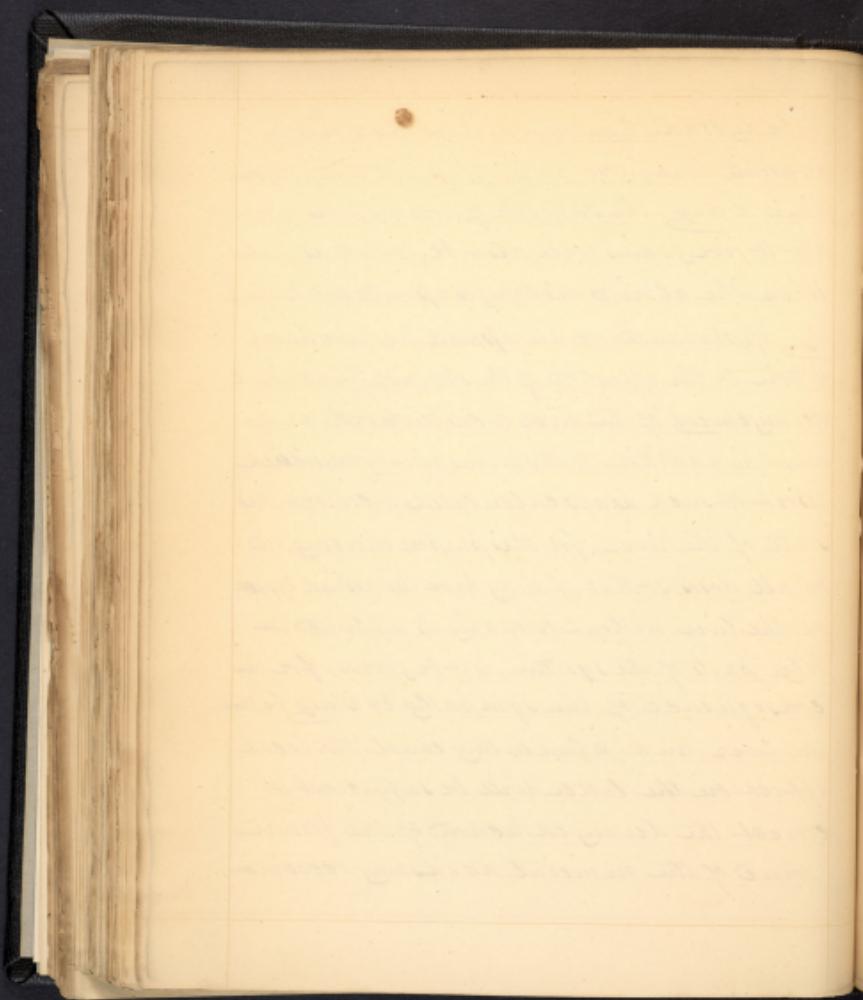
Rad. Gutt. 3*lb*

Cat. Anzant. 3*lb*

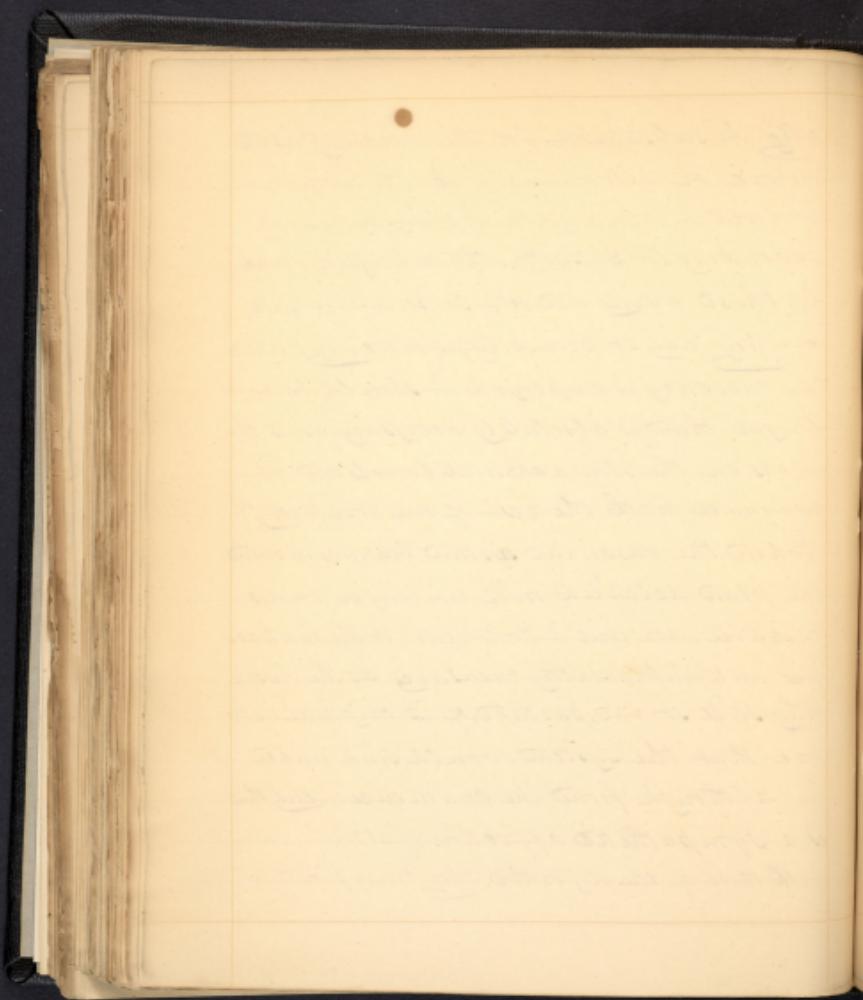
Vin. Aromatic. 6*lb*. M.



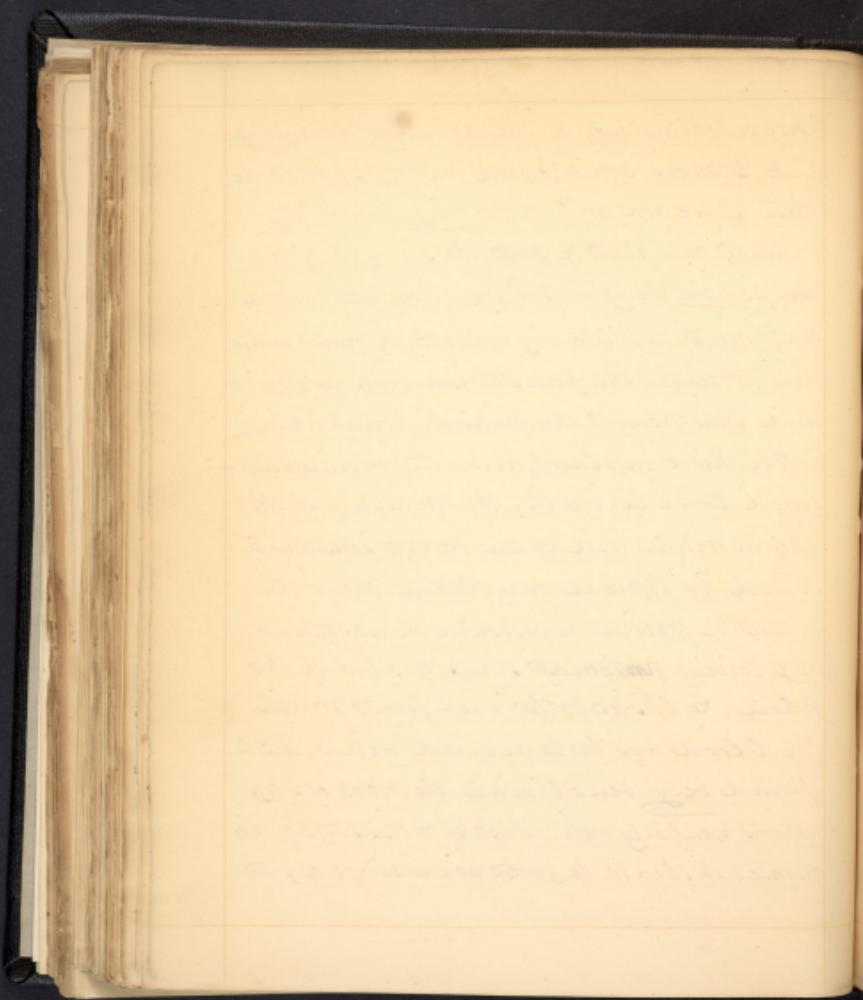
to be digested three or four days exposed to a
moderate heat, dose a wine glass full three, or four
times a day, the Sulphate of iron in pills of four
to five grains will also be found useful.
When the above discharges appear and unheal-
thy appearance, we are assured we have in ad-
dition to the affection of the stomach functional
derangements of the liver to contend with and
must in addition to the means already considered
resort to such as are calculated to correct this
state of the liver, for this purpose mercury, in
small doses, so that it may have the desired effect
on the liver, without extending its influence to
other parts of the system, is to be given, for in
consequence of the sympathy existing between
the liver and a alimentary canal the local
effect on the latter will be sufficient to
correct the deranged action of the former
Some of the mineral acids may occasion



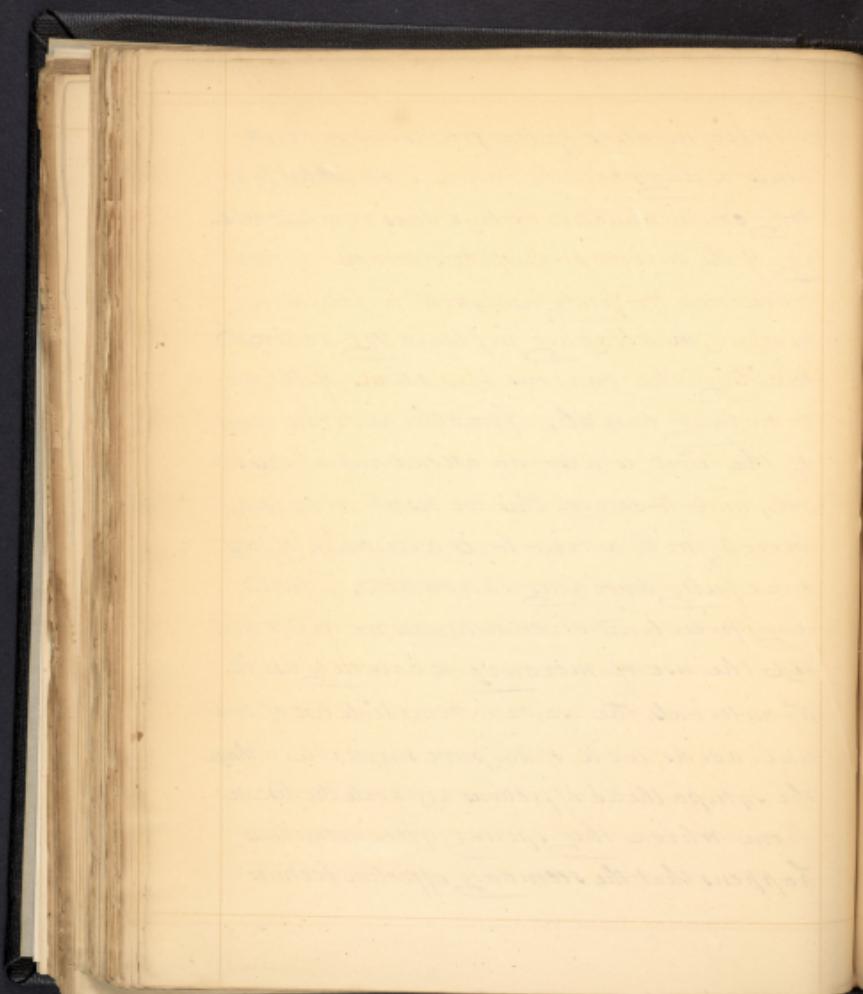
only be substituted for the mercury as the
nitric or Nitro-Muriatic, the latter may
be given internally, or applied externally
according to Dr. Yeoth. the impressions made
by these acids are not so permanent, nor
do they act so promptly, as mercury, when
the mercury is employed it should be no-
longer than is absolutely necessary, as its ef-
fects on the stomach and bowels and al-
ternated with the rest of our treatment.
When the vascular system becomes inveterate
the plan detailed will no longer be ap-
plicable, nor will it do to resort to the modera-
tive anti-inflammatory measures, as the disease
may still so far, partake, of its original na-
ture that the system would sink under
it, although from the commencement that
is a sympathetic affection of other functions
with those of the digestive they now pro- and the



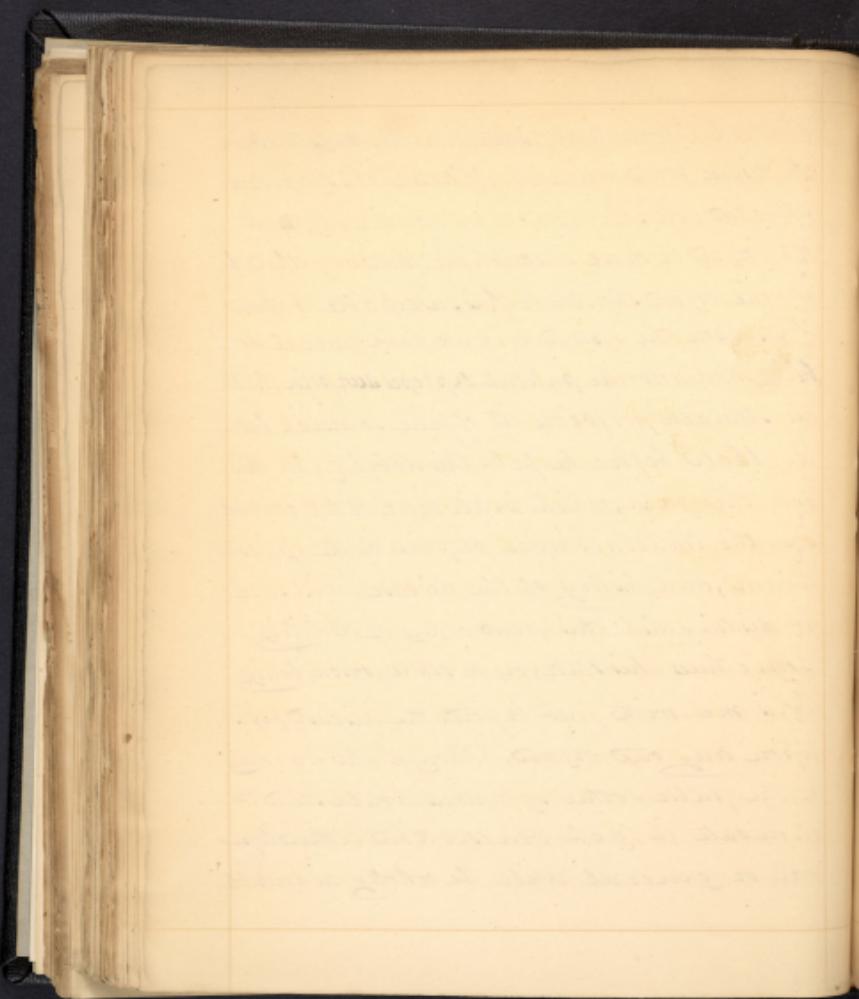
longer continuance of the primary dangerous and its more complicated nature suffered the affection on't of ~~and~~ very materially influenced our plan of cure, the strength of the patient being impaired and the remedies of a more debilitating nature, we must endeavor to restore the functions, as soon as possible and thus prevent the patient from sinking under his complaint and the means employed to relieve it, the tendency of the disease to mind will of ~~and~~ be very speedily relieved by topical venesection, now is the effect of topical venesection merely that of relieving ~~particular~~ symptoms but of the whole, a blow to the part from which the blood has been derived will of ~~and~~ be found to ~~very~~ beneficial, the nature of this appears peculiarly well adapted to this stage of the disease, it should be given no mixture of quid



arable in doses of ten grains two or three times a day; caution however is requisite lest by too long continued or too large doses we induce ~~dist~~^{dis}comfort of the nervous power of the stomach. Opium when not too freely used, will be found very useful, in allaying inflammatory action and exciting the various functions of the alimentary canal, functional derangement of the liver is also an attendant at this period, and to ~~eraze~~^{eradicate} this we resort to mercury merely with a view to its aperient effect carefully avoiding salivation, if found any peculiar circumstances we are permitted to use of mercury, or can only use it at intervals, the use, or intermediate use, of mineral acids will often prove serviceable, although the sympathetic affections aggravate the disease from which they sprung, yet it sometimes happens that the secondary affection becomes



changed with actual disease, and thus to get rid of the disease from which it originates, this sympathetic affection will seize upon a particular organ of that regard be more susceptible than any other, & no one organ should be thus susceptible of being fix'd upon the system, and we have general debility, and now the patient experiences that his stomach performs its office so much better than before he fell this debility, in this case the pulse, which is still once or less continual, the tenderness upon pressure of the epigastric, and history of the disease, will serve to distinguish this particular of debility, sometimes this state, or a state, resembling it, is met with just before the disease fix'd upon any one organ, though the hardness of the pulse & other symptoms, would tend to indicate it, yet resectio either topical or general will be wholly inadmissible.

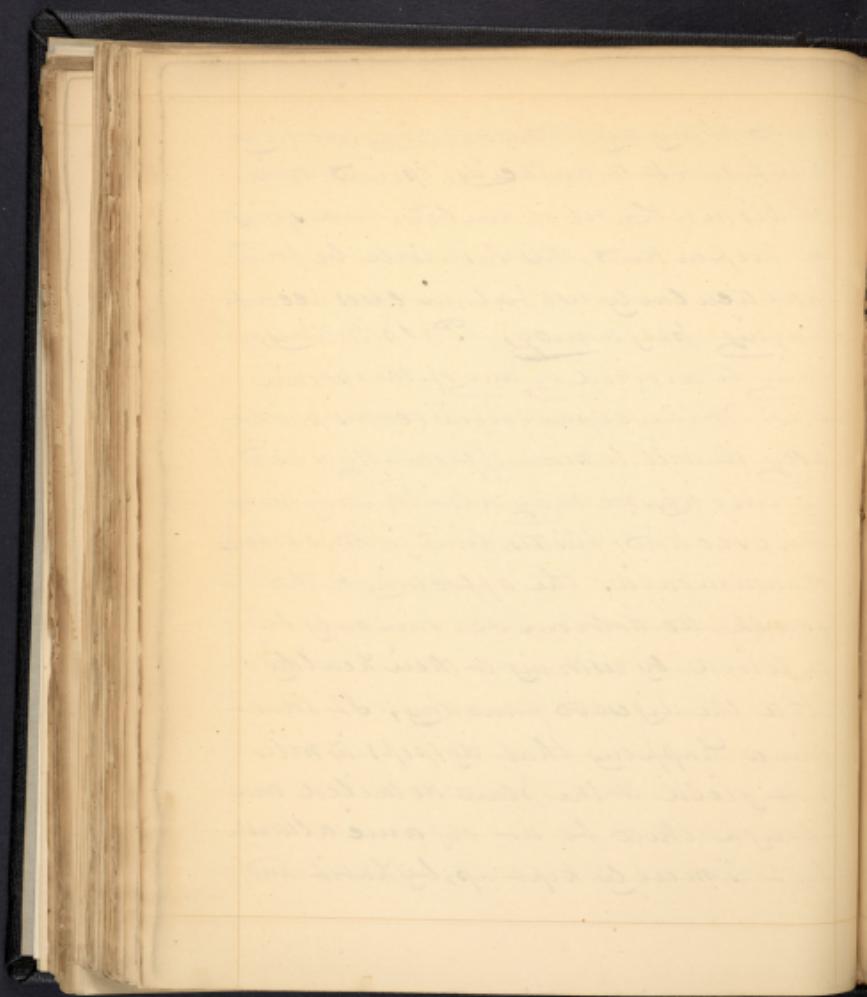


our chief reliance must be in a mild diet
with the occasional use of saliud medicine
the diet should be, when the stomach will
bear it, of vegetable and milk, the milk some-
times produces an astonishing change of humor
the pulse regular, the skin, and bowels, it
seldom happens that animal food can be
entirely relinquished,

Although we can scarcely hope to relieve
the patient, of the distressing symptoms, as
caecia, epia, pyrosis, gastralgia, cephalgia
palpitation, &c until we restore the stomach
to its healthy functions, yet it will of course
be in our power to afford temporary relief
thus, when we have cardalgia, associated
with other symptoms, that will admit of
an emetic, we should immediately give
one, as it is the most effectual remedy,
should it however not be admissible, we

must resort to cooing, as magnesia and
water & milk, or lime water alone, charcoal
medicated by leg, prepared after the following
formula. 30 of Hickory ashes one quart
of root one tea cup full, and to these add
one gallon of boiling water, after letting
the mixture stand two days, decoct, a
wine glass full to be taken after every meal
It sometimes happens that the antacids
fail, and in such cases the minerals
or vegetable acids, may be resorted to with
advantage. Gastroduodenitis may be abated
by opium, musk, tepid water, strong
hot water, sipped in small portions, &c to pre-
vent the recurrence of the spasm. Grecian
piza, warm cordial, oxide of bismuth
and a blister, &c pyrosis after exerting
to an emetic with a view of relieving
the stomach of its water accumulating.

and changing the secretions, we may
next resort to antacids, opium, tyde
of bismuth, oil of amber, and spirits
of turpentine, this last will be found
particularly useful, in cases accom-
panying pregnancy. Preparations
may be derived by any of the volatile
oils. When cephalgia occurs periodic-
ally it will be most effectually relieved
by anetox, we may also try magnesia
bene secta, bitters, lime juice, extract
of ammonia. the affection of the
soul &c, the dolorous &c, can only be
relieved by returning to their healthy
state the digestive function. It some-
times happens that dyspepsia will
not yield to the plan detailed even
though there be no organic alteration
but is merely kept up, by habit, and



then we must resort to alternative
course of mercury, to galvanised
sea-bay age &c.

Having thus briefly stated what
I conceive to be the principles which ought
to guide us in the medical treatment
of this disease, I shall only remark
that unless it be accompanied by
a well regulated diet all our efforts
will be unavailing, but if this be attend-
ed to, and added to this a proper at-
tention to clothing, keeping up a moderate
mental excitement, bodily exercise,
change of air, &c. we shall often
have the pleasure of relieving our
patients from one of the most obsti-
nate, and distressing of diseases.

